

## Message Text

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13

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 JUSE-00 SCA-01 EUR-12 RSC-01 /023 W

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R 170505Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4854

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 0388

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AS, US, SZ

SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM GOA ON DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF  
U.S. AGREEMENT WITH SWITZERLAND ON ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY AUSTRALIAN ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT (GEOFFREY HALLIDAY, SENIOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY, LAW ENFORCEMENT) TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER U.S.-SWISS "AGREEMENT FOR MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS", NEGOTIATED IN 1973, HAS ENTERED INTO FORCE, AUSTRALIANS ARE INFORMED THAT THE AGREEMENT HAD NOT ENTERED INTO FORCE AS OF FEBRUARY, 1974, BUT BELIEVE IT MAY HAVE BECOME EFFECTIVE LATER IN YEAR. (FYI: WE NOTE THAT NO SUCH AGREEMENT IS LISTED IN TREATIES IN FORCE, BUT THIS MAY BE EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT NOT INCLUDED THEREIN END FYI).

2. AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN MATTER IS SPARKED BY THEIR WISH TO NEGOTIATE SIMILAR AGREEMENT WITH SWISS. ACCORDING TO HALLIDAY, SWISS HAVE TOLD AUSTRALIANS THEY WILL CONSIDER AGREEMENT WITH GOA WHEN AGREEMENT WITH U.S. ENTERS INTO EFFECT. IN ADDITION, AUSTRALIAN HAS HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH SWISS ON NEGOTIATION OF A MODERN EXTRADITION TREATY TO REPLACE AN OLD TREATY INHERITED FROM BRITISH.

3. MAIN OBJECT OF ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS AND EXTRADITION, FROM AUSTRALIAN POINT OF VIEW, IS TO GET HELP FROM SWISS AUTHORITIES IN LOCATING AND SEQUESTERING LARGE ACCOUNTS HELD BY AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS ALEXANDER BARTON AND SON IN SWISS BANKS. BARTON'S ARE REFUGEES FROM AUSTRALIAN  
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JUSTICE AND ARE CURRENTLY LOCATED IN PARAGUAY.

GREEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, CRIMES, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** REQUEST FROM GOA ON DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF U.S. AGREEMENT WITH SWITZERLAND ON ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS  
**TAGS:** SOCI, AS, US, SZ  
**To:** STATE  
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